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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/815,884	03/23/2001	Harlan Theodore Jacobs	1327.011US1	7390

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LEMAIRE PATENT LAW FIRM, P.L.L.C.
PO BOX 11358
ST PAUL, MN 55111

EXAMINER

JACKSON, BLANE J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2618

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/08/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/815,884

Applicant(s)

JACOBS ET AL.

Examiner

Blane J. Jackson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 43-70 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 September 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 27 September 2006 has been entered.

Drawings

The replacement drawing filed 27 September 2006 is received and placed of record in the file.

Specification

The amendment to the Specification filed 27 September 2006 has been received and placed of record in the file.

Election/Restrictions

Newly submitted claims 43-70 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons:

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Claims 1-42 are drawn to an antenna and electronic communications circuit mounted to a flexible support structure and a thin-film battery deposited on the flexible support structure coupled to the antenna and electronic communications circuit, classified in class 455, subclass 41.2.

Claims 43-70 are drawn to a device affixed to a thin-film battery via a protective coating, the protective coating being located between the thin-film battery and the device and electrically coupled to the thin-film battery through a conductor, classified in class 429, subclass 162.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 43-70 are withdrawn from considerations as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP 821.03.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's Remarks filed 17 October 2006 do not comply with 37 CFR 1.111(c) because they do not clearly point out the patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made. Further, they do not show how the amendments avoid such references or objections.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 42 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 42, the phrase "less than about" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 5-8, 9, 11, 16-20, 22 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuttle et al. (US 6,078,791) with a view to Meunier et al. (US 5,202,201).

As to claims 1 and 11, Tuttle teaches a method and apparatus for a combined battery and wireless communications system comprising:

A flexible support structure (figure 2, support layer (30) a RFID device bonded to a rigid or flexible thin film support, column 3, lines 39-43 and column 4, lines 5-13),

A thin film battery *mounted to the substrate* (figure 2, batteries (38) and (40), column 7, lines 31-44 and figure 4B, column 21-26),

An antenna mounted to the support structure (figure 2, dipole antenna, conductive strips (34) and (36), column 7, lines 31-38),

An electronic communications circuit mounted to the support structure and electrically coupled to the battery and the antenna to transceiver radio communications (figure 1A is the functional block diagram and figures 4A-4D, transceiver IC (32) bonded to the support structure, column 8, lines 12-20).

Tuttle teaches a thin-film batteries (column 4, lines 14-19) bonded with epoxy to the support structure (column 8, lines 21-26) but does not teach a first conductive layer deposited on the support structure and a thin film battery deposited as successive thin film depositions over at least a portion of the first conductive layer.

Meunier teaches a thin film battery deposited on a flexible support structure with a first conductive layer deposited on a first surface area of the support structure (column 2, line 64 to column 3, line 17) and a thin film battery deposited as successive thin-film depositions over at least a portion of the first conductive layer, the battery comprising a cathode layer, a solid state electrolyte layer and an anode layer deposited such that either the anode layer or the cathode layer is in electrical contact with the first conductive layer and the electrolyte layer in contact with and completely separating the anode layer and the cathode layer (column 4, lines 56-62 and figure 5, column 8, lines 5-11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to realize the thin film battery bonded to the supporting structure in the application of Tuttle as alternatively constructed on the supporting structure as taught by

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Meunier to make it possible to continuously produce composite elements having a large surface area and can be made to travel continuously in the cathodic sputtering depositions enclosure, roll to roll processing techniques.

As to claims 5 and 16 with respect to claim 1 and 11, Tuttle teaches the assembly includes a rigid or flexible thin film support member to support integrated circuits, antenna and thin film batteries disposed thereon (figure 2, column 4, lines 5-21) where the flexible support member would inherently bend to match a curved shape.

As to claims 6-8 and 17-19 with respect to claims 1 and 11, Tuttle teaches the antenna is within the integrated circuit, or position adjacent to the IC on the thin support member, column 4, lines 5-14, in the form of a dipole or loop antenna typically screen printed on the upper surface of the base support layer, column 7, line 31-38 and column 6, lines 35-50. Tuttle further teaches the outer surfaces of two batteries may also serve as a bow tie antenna, column 10, lines 25-36 where this alternative battery/ antenna structure teaches a plurality methods to selectively position and deposit or screen ink the conductive pattern of the antenna consistent with the packaging design and manufacturing method.

As to claims 9 and 20 with respect to claims 1 and 11, Tuttle teaches wherein the electronic circuit includes a recharging circuit that recharges the battery using energy received by the antenna (figure 9, the "battery" being a charge on capacitor (148) is

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maintained by conventional RF charging circuits on IC (150), energized from a remote source through the antenna, such as an electronic device configured as a radio frequency identification (RFID) transceiver, column 10, lines 37-48).

As to claims 22 and 26, Tuttle teaches an integrated combined battery and wireless communication device comprising:

A flexible support structure (figure 2, support layer (30) a RFID device bonded to a rigid or flexible thin film support, column 3, lines 39-43 and column 4, lines 5-13),

A thin film battery bonded to the substrate (figure 2, batteries (38) and (40), column 9, lines 11-14),

An energy receiving device mounted to the support structure,

An electronic communications circuit including an antenna mounted to the support structure and including a recharging circuit, the recharging circuit electrically coupled to the battery and the energy receiving device to recharge the battery using energy received by the energy receiving device (figure 9, communications circuit including an antenna (154 and 156) and a recharging circuit that recharges the battery using energy received by the antenna, the "battery" being a charge on capacitor (148) is maintained by conventional RF charging circuits on IC (150), energized from a remote source through the antenna, such as an electronic device configured as a radio frequency identification (RFID) transceiver, column 10, lines 37-48).

Tuttle teaches a thin-film batteries (column 4, lines 14-19), which are bonded to the support structure (column 8, lines 21-26) but does not teach a first conductive layer

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deposited on the support structure and a thin film battery deposited as successive thin film depositions over at least a portion of the first conductive layer.

Meunier teaches a thin film battery deposited on a flexible support structure comprising a first conductive layer deposited on a first surface area of the support structure (column 1, lines 8-24 and column 2, line 64 to column 3, line 17) and a thin film battery deposited as successive thin-film depositions over at least a portion of the first conductive layer, the battery comprising a cathode layer, a solid state electrolyte layer and an anode layer deposited such that either the anode layer or the cathode layer is in electrical contact with the first conductive layer and the electrolyte layer in contact with and completely separating the anode layer and the cathode layer (column 4, lines 56-62, figure 5, column 8, lines 5-11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to realize the thin film battery bonded to the supporting structure in the application of Tuttle as alternatively constructed on the supporting structure as taught by Meunier to make it possible to continuously produce composite elements having a large surface area and can be made to travel continuously in the cathodic sputtering depositions enclosure, roll to roll processing techniques.

Claims 2-4, 12-15, 23, 24, 31, 32 and 34-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuttle et al. (US 6,078,791) and Meunier et al. (US 5,202,201 and further in view of Bates (US 5,569,520).

As to claims 2-4, 12-15, 23, 24 and 34-39 with respect to claims 1, 11, 22 and 33, Meunier of Tuttle modified teaches a positive titanium oxysulphide electrode, a lithium ion-conductive glass electrolyte and a negative lithium electrode but is silent on a anode and cathode with an intercalation material or the electrolyte layer comprises LIPON.

Bates teaches one or a stack of rechargeable lithium battery comprising a substrate, then successive deposited layers of metal cathode current collector, a cathode layer comprising a lithium intercalation material or lithium cobalt oxide, an electrolyte layer comprising LIPON and an anode film comprised of lithium, column 5, lines 7-30, column 3, line 11 to column 4, line 10. Bates further teaches a multicell battery suitable for applications requiring moderate amounts of power, column 7, lines 23-27.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the deposited layer materials of Tuttle modified with the lithium compounds as taught by Bates to form a rechargeable thin film battery capable of providing moderate amounts of power suitable for cellular telephones, laptop computers, hearing aids and cardiac pacemakers.

As to claims 31 and 32, Tuttle teaches a method and apparatus for a combined rechargeable battery and wireless communications system comprising:

A support structure (figure 2, support layer (30) a RFID device bonded to a rigid or flexible thin film support, column 3, lines 39-43 and column 4, lines 5-13),

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A thin film battery bonded to the substrate (figure 2, batteries (38) and (40), column 9, lines 11-14),

A wireless energy receiving device mounted to the support structure (figure 2, dipole antenna, conductive strips (34) and (36), column 10, lines 37-48),

An electronic communications circuit mounted to the support structure and electrically coupled to the battery and the antenna to transceiver radio communications (figure 1A is the functional block diagram and figures 4A-4D, transceiver IC (32) bonded to the support structure, column 8, lines 12-20).

Tuttle teaches a thin-film batteries (column 4, lines 14-19), which are bonded to the support structure (column 8, lines 21-26) but does not teach a first conductive layer deposited on the support structure and a thin film battery deposited as successive thin film depositions over at least a portion of the first conductive layer.

Meunier teaches a thin film battery deposited on a flexible support comprising a first conductive layer deposited on a first surface area of the support structure (column 1, lines 8-24 and column 2, line 64 to column 3, line 17) and a thin film battery deposited as successive thin-film depositions over at least a portion of the first conductive layer, the battery comprising a cathode layer, a solid state electrolyte layer and an anode layer deposited such that either the anode layer or the cathode layer is in electrical contact with the first conductive layer and the electrolyte layer in contact with and completely separating the anode layer and the cathode layer (column 4, lines 56-62, figure 5, column 8, lines 5-11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to realize the thin film battery bonded to the supporting structure in the application of Tuttle as alternatively constructed on the supporting structure as taught by Meunier to make it possible to continuously produce composite elements having a large surface area and can be made to travel continuously in the cathodic sputtering depositions enclosure, roll to roll processing techniques.

Tuttle modified teaches a wireless communication device mounted to the support structure including a recharging circuit, the recharging circuit electrically coupled to the battery and the energy receiving device to recharge the battery using energy received by the energy receiving device but does not teach an electronic hearing aid or implantable medical device.

Bates teaches one or a stack of rechargeable lithium battery comprising a substrate, then successive deposited layers of metal cathode current collector, a cathode layer comprising a lithium intercalation material or lithium cobalt oxide, an electrolyte layer comprising LIPON and an anode film comprised of lithium, column 5, lines 7-30, column 3, line 11 to column 4, line 10. Bates further teaches a multicell battery suitable for applications including cellular telephones, laptop computers, hearing aids and cardiac pacemakers, column 7, lines 23-27.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the deposited layer materials of Tuttle modified with the lithium compounds as taught by Bates to form a rechargeable thin film battery capable of providing moderate amounts of power to drive a variety of portable electronic devices.

Claims 10, 21, 25, 33, 40 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuttle et al. (US 6,078,791) and Meunier et al. (US 5,202,201 and further in view of Little (US 4,740,431).

As to claims 10, 21, 25, 40 and 41 with respect to claims 1, 11, 22, 31 and 33, Tuttle teaches a RFID device comprising a battery positioned on a rigid or flexible thin film support member, column 5, line 65 to column 6, line 14, but does not teaches a photovoltaic cell including a recharging circuit that recharges the battery.

Little teaches an integrated thin film photovoltaic or solar cell and battery with supporting circuits for the solar cell to charge the battery, figures 1-3, column 5, lines 18-39).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the RFID device of Tuttle modified to include the photovoltaic cell and charge circuits of Little to provide long term activation of the RFID device.

As to claim 33, Tuttle teaches a method and apparatus for a combined rechargeable battery and wireless communications system comprising:

A support structure (figure 2, support layer (30) a RFID device bonded to a rigid or flexible thin film support, column 3, lines 39-43 and column 4, lines 5-13),

A thin film battery bonded to the substrate (figure 2, batteries (38) and (40), column 9, lines 11-14),

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A wireless energy receiving device mounted to the support structure (figure 2, dipole antenna, conductive strips (34) and (36), column 10, lines 37-48),

An electronic communications circuit mounted to the support structure and electrically coupled to the battery and the antenna to transceiver radio communications (figure 1A is the functional block diagram and figures 4A-4D, transceiver IC (32) bonded to the support structure, column 8, lines 12-20).

Tuttle teaches a thin-film batteries (column 4, lines 14-19), which are bonded to the support structure (column 8, lines 21-26) but does not teach a first conductive layer deposited on the support structure and a thin film battery deposited as successive thin film depositions over at least a portion of the first conductive layer.

Meunier teaches a thin film battery deposited on a flexible support structure comprising a first conductive layer deposited on a first surface area of the support structure (column 1, lines 8-24 and column 2, line 64 to column 3, line 17) and a thin film battery deposited as successive thin-film depositions over at least a portion of the first conductive layer, the battery comprising a cathode layer, a solid state electrolyte layer and an anode layer deposited such that either the anode layer or the cathode layer is in electrical contact with the first conductive layer and the electrolyte layer in contact with and completely separating the anode layer and the cathode layer (column 4, lines 56-62, figure 5, column 8, lines 5-11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to realize the thin film battery bonded to the supporting structure in the application of Tuttle as alternatively constructed on the supporting structure as taught by

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Meunier to make it possible to continuously produce composite elements having a large surface area and can be made to travel continuously in the cathodic sputtering depositions enclosure, roll to roll processing techniques.

Tuttle modified teaches a wireless communication device mounted to the support structure including a recharging circuit, the recharging circuit electrically coupled to the battery and the energy receiving device to recharge the battery using energy received by the energy receiving device but does not teach a timepiece.

Little teaches a thin film integrated solar cell and storage battery with recharging circuits where this circuit is sized to drive device with high power requirements including radio transceivers, portable computers, talking watches and calculators, figure 1, column 2, lines 36-53 and column 5, lines 18-39.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to recognize in the thin film circuit of Tuttle modified the battery based circuit suitable to drive other electronic loads including calculators and wristwatches in an efficient manner.

Claims 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuttle et al. (US 6,078,791) and Meunier et al. (US 5,202,201) and further in view of Lew et al. (US 6,608,464).

As to claims 27 and 29 with respect to claim 22, Tuttle modified teaches an energy receiving device, column 10, lines 37-48 but does not teach the energy receiving device comprises an electromechanical electric generator or magnetic transducer.

Low teaches an integrated power source layered with thin film rechargeable batteries, charger and charge controller where selection of the source of current delivered to the battery is under the control of an auto select charging unit (figure 10, column 7, lines 7-50). The three current sources are a Solar Cells (88), RF/ Microwave Induction Charger and Miniature Generator (94), figure 3d, inductive charging: column 5, line 62 to column 6, line 4.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to expand the energy source of Tuttle modified to include the alternatives of Low to ensure recharging of the batteries.

As to claims 28 and 30 with respect to claim 22, Tuttle modified does not teach the energy receiving device comprises an acoustic transducer.

Low teaches the selection of three sources to source the circuits and charge the battery (figure 10) but does not teach the energy receiving device comprises an acoustic transducer. However, since Low teaches the idea of a variety of sources, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply any other suitable power source to Tuttle modified to ensure the device has available power to operate.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Blane J. Jackson whose telephone number is (571) 272-

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7890. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM-6:00 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Urban can be reached on (571) 272-7899. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BJJ


EDWARD F. URBAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600